

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method to be performed on a computer system having a display device including a display surface, having a primary display area controllable by an operating system and an overscan area not controlled by the operating system, the method comprising:
reserving a first portion of the operating system controllable primary display area for exclusive use and control by a first program that is not part of said operating system; and
rendering contents in said reserved first portion of the operating system controllable primary display area, by said first program, excluding all other programs, including said operating system, from using or controlling said reserved first portion of operating system controllable primary display area.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said reserving comprises requesting a window manager to switch to a display mode having a smaller pixel configuration.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said reserving further comprises aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device driver to configure a display hardware to said smaller pixel configuration.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said reserving further comprises pre-alerting a display area manager of said display mode switch request to said window manager.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein
the method further comprises determining if a first event has occurred; and
said reserving is performed only if the first event is determined to have occurred.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the method further comprises
determining if a second event has occurred; and

unreserving said first portion of the operating system controllable primary display area for use by said first program if the second event is determined to have occurred.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said unreserving comprises requesting a window manager to switch to a display mode having a larger pixel configuration.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said unreserving further comprises aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device driver to configure a display hardware to said larger pixel configuration.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said reserving further comprises pre-alerting an display area manager of said display mode switch request to said window manager.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode to a full screen mode; and

notifying said first program to temporarily stop rendering contents in said reserved first portion of the operating system controllable primary display area.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the method further comprises monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode from a full screen mode to a normal mode; and

notifying said first program to resume rendering contents in said reserved first portion of the operating system controllable primary display area.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises monitoring for a request by an application to change a display mode to a full screen mode; and

upon detecting such as request, intercepting all page flipping calls by said application, and forwarding each of said page flipping calls onward only after said first program has updated a back buffer.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the method further comprises interacting with said full screen mode requesting application to maintain said reserved first portion of the operating system controllable primary display area.

14. (Currently Amended) A method to be performed on a computer system having a display device including a display surface, having a primary display area controllable by an operating system and an overscan area not controlled by the operating system, the method comprising:

pre-alerting a display area manager of a display mode switch request to a window manager;

submitting said display mode switch request to said window manager; and

aborting a responsive request by the window manager to a display device driver to configure a display hardware in accordance with said display mode switch request, to effectuate reservation of an area of the operating system controllable primary display area for exclusive use and control by a program that is not part of the operating system, excluding all other programs, including the operating system, from using or controlling the reserved area of the operating system controllable primary display area.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said display mode switch request is a request to switch to a selected one of a smaller and a larger pixel configuration.

16. (Currently amended) A method to be performed on a computer system having a display device including a display surface, having a primary display area controllable by an operating system and an overscan area not controlled by the operating system, the method comprising:

determining if a first event has occurred;

operating the display device with the operating system controllable primary display area having one or more display areas whose contents are persistently visible and controlled by a first

program that is not part of the operating system, excluding all other programs, including the operating system, from using or controlling the one or more display areas, if the first event is determined to have occurred;

determining if a second event has occurred; and

operating the display device with the operating system controllable primary display area having no display area whose contents are persistently visible and controlled by a program that is not part of the operating system, excluding all other programs, including the operating system, from using or controlling, if the second event is determined to have occurred.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said operating of the display device with the operating system controllable primary display area having one or more display areas whose contents are persistently visible and controlled by a first program further comprises accommodating the first program ~~to an application that~~ operates in a full screen mode.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said accommodating comprises temporarily suspending rendering contents into said display areas.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said accommodating comprises interacting with said first program ~~application~~ that operates in a full screen mode to at least partially maintain said display areas.

20. (Currently amended) A method to be performed on a computer system having a display device including a display surface, having a primary display area controllable by an operating system and an overscan area not controlled by the operating system, the method comprising:

intercepting a page flipping call by an application that is not part of the operating system, ~~operating~~ in a full screen mode;

updating locations of a back buffer unused by said application with contents to be persistently visible in an area of the operating system controllable primary display area reserved for the use of and control by the application, excluding all other programs, including the

operating system, from using or controlling the reserved area of the operating system
controllable primary display area; and

forwarding said page flipping call onward after said updating.

21. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the operations set forth in claim 1.

22. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the operations set forth in claim 14.

23. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the operations set forth in claim 16.

24. (Original) An article of manufacture comprising:

a recordable medium having stored thereon a plurality of programming instructions to be executed by a processor, wherein when executed, perform the operations set forth in claim 20.

25. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of programming instructions designed to implement a display device driver to render displays on an operating system controllable primary display area of a display device, and a use manager to cooperate with said display device driver to effectuate reservation of ~~at least~~ a first sub-portion of said operating system controllable primary display area for exclusive use or control by a program that is not part of the operating system, to which renders persistently visible contents in the reserved first sub-portion of said operating system controllable primary display area, excluding all other programs, including the operating system, from using or controlling the reserved first sub-portion of said operating

system controllable primary display area, the display device further having an overscan area not controlled by the operating system; and

a processor coupled to the display device and the storage medium to execute the programming instructions.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the use manager is equipped to receive an alert of a display mode change request from a window manager to said display device driver, and in response, upon intercepting said display mode change request, aborting said display mode change request.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the use manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode of operation from an application, and in response, notifying applications associated with said use display areas to temporarily suspend rendering contents into said use display areas.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the use manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode of operation from an application, and interact with said application to at least partially maintain said display areas.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the use manager is further equipped to intercept page flipping calls by said application, and facilitating rendering of contents into said display areas by applications associated with the display areas prior to forwarding the intercepted page flipping calls.

30. (Withdrawn) An operating system comprising:
a display device driver to render displays on a display surface of a display device; and
an exclusive use manager to cooperate with said display device driver to facilitate exclusive use of at least a first sub-portion of said display surface for rendering persistently visible contents.

31. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use manager is equipped to receive an alert of a display mode change request from a window manager to said display device driver, and in response, upon intercepting said display mode change request, aborting said display mode change request.

32. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode of operation from an application, and in response, notifying applications associated with said exclusive use display areas to temporarily suspend rendering contents into said exclusive use display areas.

33. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use manager is equipped to monitor for a display mode change request to enter a full screen mode of operation from an application, and interact with said application to at least partially maintain said exclusive use display areas.

34. (Withdrawn) The operating system of claim 30, wherein the exclusive use manager is further equipped to intercept page flipping calls by said application, and facilitating rendering of contents into said exclusive use display areas by applications associated with the exclusive use display areas prior to forwarding the intercepted page flipping calls.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)